



REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 10th November 1883.

CONTENTS :

	Page.		Page.
England and Russia	721	Public meetings in England	727
The Anglo-Indians and the British Empire	ib.	Mr. Sharp	ib.
Competitive Civil Service	ib.	The Anglo-Indians	ib.
The <i>Englishman</i> on Indian politics... ..	722	The outstill system	728
The attitude of Anglo-Indians	ib.	The outstill system	ib.
The return of the Viceroy	ib.	The law in the mofussil	ib.
Lord Ripon	ib.	The Dacca whipping case	ib.
Mathusami Iyer	ib.	Mr. Thompson and Mr. B. Dey	ib.
Mr. Metcalfe of Patna	ib.	The loyalty of Anglo-Indians	ib.
The Statutory Civilian	723	Anglo-Indian Empire	729
The Dacca whipping case	ib.	Health of Bengal	ib.
Kashmere	ib.	The outstill system	ib.
The impending famine	ib.	The khas mehals	ib.
British Empire in India	ib.	Government management of wards' estates	730
The Dacca whipping case	ib.	Mr. Lyall and the jury system	ib.
Mr. Thompson's partiality to his countrymen	724	Apprehensions of a famine	ib.
Buzlal Kurim, the Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal	ib.	Baboo Trailokya Nath Mookerjee	ib.
Agricultural department for Bengal	ib.	Supply of information to native newspapers	ib.
Mass education	ib.	Certain consequences of the proposed rent law	ib.
Famine	ib.	Loyalty	731
Moulvie Buzlul Kurim, the Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal	ib.	The volunteers and the Lieutenant-Governor	732
The District Superintendent of Police, Rangpur	725	The influence of the <i>Englishman</i>	ib.
The cause of epidemics	ib.	The spirit of the tea-planters	ib.
The outstill system	ib.	Who is the chief opponent of Lord Ripon	733
The Maharajah of Hutwa	ib.	The impending famine	ib.
The Indian cultivator	726	The lamentation of India	ib.
The apprehension of a famine	ib.	The Rent Bill	734
The Maharajah of Cooch Behar	ib.	Mr. Thompson and the native judiciary... ..	ib.
The Self-Government Bill	ib.	The misery of the ryot	ib.
Dr. K. D. Ghosh	ib.	Inconveniences of a railway journey	735
The volunteers	ib.	Nilgiri affairs	ib.
Mr. Thompson and Sir Ashley Eden	727	State of the crops	736
Maharajah of Hutwa	ib.		

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	653	
2	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto	474	
3	"Tripurá Vartávaha"	Comillah ... ..	.....
4	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
5	"Alok"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto	700	5th November 1883.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	150	
8	"Bangabási"	Ditto	8,500	3rd ditto.
9	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ... ..	.....
10	"Bhárat Bandhu"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
11	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal	450	
12	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh	713	
13	"Bardwán Sanjiváni"	Burdwan	282	6th ditto.
14	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	5th ditto.
15	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	526	4th ditto.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	745	26th October and 2nd November 1883.
17	"Grámvartá Prakashiká"	Comercolly	267	27th October 1883.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
BENGALI—concluded.					
Weekly.					
18	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta	1st November 1883.	
19	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rajshahye	200		
20	"Jātiya Suhrid"	Calcutta	700		
21	"Medini"	Midnapore	.....	
22	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore	418		
23	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....	
24	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta	850		5th ditto.
25	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	421		
26	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore	287		6th ditto.
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore	275		
28	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah	24th October 1883. 5th November 1883. 3rd ditto. 1st ditto. 5th ditto. 3rd ditto.	
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakinia, Rungpore	220		
30	"Sādhārānī"	Chinsurah	500		
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500		
32	"Samaya"	Ditto	.....	
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	.....	
34	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca	.....	
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta	...		
36	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs.	.....	
37	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta	3,000		
38	"Surabhi"	Deoghur	29th and 31st October 1883. 27th October, & 1st to 6th Nov. 1883. 2nd to 8th November 1883. 2nd to 5th ditto. 27th October and 1st November 1883.	
39	"Udbodhan"	Calcutta	.....	
Daily.					
40	"Dainik Vártā"	Hoogli	.....	
41	"Samvad Prabhākar"	Calcutta	250		
42	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300		
43	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625		
44	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500		
45	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	500		
ENGLISH AND URDU.					
Weekly.					
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	3rd November 1883.	
HINDI.					
Weekly.					
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	1st ditto. 29th October 1883. 3rd November 1883.	
48	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500		
49	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500		
50	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	.....	
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
51	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta	250	2nd ditto.	
URDU.					
Weekly.					
52	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	
53	"Amir-ul-Akbar"	Ditto	.....	
ASSAMESE.					
Monthly.					
54	"Assam Vilāsinī"	Sibsagar		
URIYA.					
Weekly.					
55	"Utkal Dipikā"	Cuttack	188	
56	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200		
57	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Ditto	92		
58	"Purusottam Patrikā"	Pooree	330		
HINDI.					
Monthly.					
59	"Kshatriya Patrikā"	Patna	400		

POLITICAL.

THE *Som Prakás*, of the 5th November, predicts that whatever may be the lot of India, the British lion and the Russian bear are sure to meet one day on the other side of the land of the five rivers. The Russians are steadily advancing on India with a view to conquer the country from the English, who are making so much profit out of it. Had Russia been strong in naval force, she would never have undertaken the difficult task of gradually conquering the arid and unprofitable countries lying between Russia and India. Had it not been for the purpose of securing a passage to India, the Russians would never have traversed countries like Turkistan. They are winning the hearts of the conquered tribes by good government. They are not so exacting as the English. The Emperor seems to be anxious for the prosperity of his people. The English are always afraid of Russia, but the only remedy of this future danger is to make the Indian people prosperous and strong. If the people of India are content, healthy, and wealthy, a foreign king will never obtain entrance into this country. The Anglo-Indians may regard such proposals with contempt, but surely to boast and to brag is not worthy of an intelligent being.

SOM PRAKASH,
Nov. 5th, 1893.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

2. Referring to the proposal of the *Englishman* to supply 40,000 Anglo-Indian soldiers to enable the Royal family in England to defeat the Radicals, the *Sahachar*, of the 24th October, observes that the day on which the Royal family will have to depend on the strength of Anglo-Indian indigo-planters, tea-planters, DeCruzes and DeSouzas will be a very bad day for that family and its empire. If the system of Government of that small island, which has hitherto conquered large countries, on whose empire the sun never sets, were to depend upon Indian volunteer heroes, there would be no end to its glory. This empire does not rest on brute force, or on the terror inspired by indigo-planters or any Europeans, but on British justice and on liberal principles. It is fortunate the present Ministers know that, as the empire was gradually acquired with the assistance of Indian sepoys, it must be maintained with the assistance of respectable, wealthy, educated, and able men of this country. Our Governor-General and other statesmen understand that, if the people of India are given the rights of British subjects, the empire will become lasting. They admit that a repressive system of administration cannot last for ever. They know how far the volunteers can go. If England left the government of the country in the hands of the Anglo-Indians, could they retain it for a month? It is not the indigo-planters and the tea-planters who are maintaining the empire. The British flag, the force of British good government, and the prestige of England are maintaining the empire. It was founded by great soldiers and statesmen, and it is being maintained by the admirable British system of executive and judicial administration.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 24th, 1893.

3. The *Education Gazette*, of the 26th October, attributes the present agitation against to the Ilbert Bill to the fact that the limit of age has been lowered for the competitive Civil Service. Formerly, when civilians were selected from amongst the scions of the noble families in England, and trained in the same institutions, they had much sympathy amongst themselves, and they never mixed with the party opposed to progress in India. There were in fact three parties—(1) the civilians, (2) the party opposed to progress, (3) the natives. But the lowering of the limit of age has had the effect of excluding not only the scions of noble families, but also the graduates of the

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Oct. 26th, 1893.

universities, along with the natives of India. It has brought the first and the second parties together. The civilians, who were formerly the chief supporters of the Black Act, are now the chief opponents of the Ilbert Bill. The raising of the limit of age is absolutely necessary, but the Civil Service Commissioners are opposed to it, on the ground that it does not affect the interests of any class or school.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Oct. 26th, 1883.

4. The same paper, after giving a brief summary of an article of the *Englishman* newspaper, on the subject of probable civil war in England, says that if the English people can win the hearts of the Indian population by good government they will never desert their benefactors. In time of danger the prowess of native troops will maintain the supremacy of England. Not only against foreigners, but even against its own rebellious subjects will the natives stand firm by the side of the English Government. The day will come when England will know India to be her best ally. She will then feel the impropriety of disarming the native population, and admire the loyalty of her black subjects. The writer makes a prophecy—"whatever the heart wants the mouth speaketh."

The *Englishman* on Indian politics.

5. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 27th October, remarks that Anglo-Indians, finding the supporters of the Ilbert Bill to be firm in their attitude, are now openly spreading sedition throughout the length and breadth of the country. They will have war and nothing but war. It is certain that their words will end in no action. Even if they prove turbulent, the Indian Government is strong enough to teach them a lesson. But the rulers of Bengal and Assam are mere lookers on, perfectly indifferent as to what may happen. But are they not responsible for the peace of the provinces put under their charge? They would certainly have come forward if natives convened similar meetings and made similar speeches.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Oct. 27th, 1883.

The attitude of Anglo-Indians.

6. The *Prabhātī*, of the 27th October, is glad that the popular Viceroy is returning to his capital. Every one should be happy at this piece of good news; but the volunteers do not like the Viceroy. They are determined to stay away. The writer says, if the volunteers think they would honour the Viceroy by their presence, they are mistaken. It is themselves they honour and not the Viceroy. They are getting a bad name by this wilful disobedience, and no good man will sympathise with them.

PRABHATI,
Oct. 27th, 1883.

The return of the Viceroy.

7. The *Grāmvartā Prakāśikā*, of the 27th October, remarks that of all the glories of Lord Ripon, that arising from the grant of the freedom of the press is the one most calculated to benefit the country. His Lordship's deference for the opinion of the press has increased the number of writers and readers of newspapers.

GRAMVARTĀ
PRAKASHIKĀ,
Oct. 27th, 1883.

Lord Ripon.

8. The same paper is glad to learn that Mr. Mathusami Iyer has at length been appointed a Judge of the Madras High Court. It is inexplicable why he was so long excluded.

GRAMVARTĀ
PRAKASHIKĀ.

Mathusami Iyer.

9. The same paper remarks that Mr. Metcalfe has been temporarily appointed Commissioner of Patna. He is involved in debt on all sides, and so should not be allowed to remain in public service. But Mr. Metcalfe is very fortunate: instead of losing his appointment he has got a lift. Does Mr. Thompson know this, or does he want to trample the rules of the Indian Empire under foot? Whatever that be, Mr. Thompson has certainly done wrong this time. But the reader can think the experience and ability of Mr. Metcalfe have induced His Honor to pardon him.

GRAMVARTĀ
PRAKASHIKĀ.

Mr. Metcalfe of Patna

involved in debt on all sides, and so should not be allowed to remain in public service. But Mr. Metcalfe is very fortunate: instead of losing his appointment he has got a lift. Does Mr. Thompson know this, or does he want to trample the rules of the Indian Empire under foot? Whatever that be, Mr. Thompson has certainly done wrong this time. But the reader can think the experience and ability of Mr. Metcalfe have induced His Honor to pardon him.

10. The same paper remarks that the system introduced by Lord

The Statutory civilian.

Lytton of nominating the scions of aristocratic families to fill the posts of civilians was at its very inception faulty. The recent discussions have brought all its faults to light. These civilians are not up to the mark. But the fault is to be laid at the door of Lord Lytton, and not at that of the natives. The writer proposes that an examination should be held for the purpose of selection, men who have passed the F. A. examination only being selected. The paper should be the same as that for candidates for the Civil Service in England. There is no necessity of Indian youths going to England. Men can be very good Judges and administrators without ever touching the soil of England. The writer appeals both to Government and to the people to labor to have the rules of Lord Lytton altered.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.
Oct. 27th, 1893.

11. The same paper remarks that the Magistrates have shown a new phase of their character in the recent Dacca

The Dacca whipping case.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA

whipping case. That these men blame the native magistracy is something which is really inconceivable. The Magistrates, European and native alike, are all men, and therefore liable to error. Hundreds of instances are seen every day in which Magistrates err. But their errors are not unpardonable. But these Magistrates at Dacca have shown their incapacity of judging from the evidence before them. Those that cannot sift evidence, do not know their duty, and cannot keep their heads cool, should get some other seat than the sacred bench of a Judge.

The reason why the boys are punished is simply this: that these unprovoked attacks are becoming common. There is no evidence that these are really becoming common—at least none before the Magistrate. The situation has really become dangerous. Those that come here for public business should join no party, but our civilians have joined a party. The educated community should not remain idle. They should see that no injustice is done under the colour of justice.

12. The *Dainikbarta*, of the 29th October, remarks that, though Lord

Kashmere.

Ripon has gone to Kashmere for no political purpose, simply to accept the invitation of

DAINIKBARTA,
Oct. 29th, 1893.

the Maharajah, still bad men are spreading all sorts of rumours. They say the object of Lord Ripon is to see with his own eyes the misgovernment of Kashmere. It is a fortunate accident that no official of Colonel Phyre's stamp is now stationed at Kashmere. Oliver St. John is really an excellent man. As long as he is at Kashmere everything is safe there.

13. The same paper assures the public that the state of the crops is not really so bad as it is represented.

The impending famine.

The *aus* crop was all that could be desired.

DAINIKBARTA.

The state of the *amun* crop is far from alarming. It is panic which has increased the price of rice. Government should be very cautious to take any hasty steps.

14. The *Sársudhánidhí*, of the 29th October, discusses the question how

British Empire in India.

the British Empire in India can be made permanent. The writer does not think that the

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Oct. 29th, 1893.

Empire is maintained by the prestige of the Anglo-Indians, or by the force of the few volunteers. It is maintained by British justice. If competent natives are given a share in the government of the country, if India be politically united with England as Scotland and Wales have been, and if the system of administration that obtains in England be introduced into this country, the Empire will become lasting.

15. The *Dainikbarta*, of the 31st October, remarks that the Magis-

The Dacca whipping case.

trates of Dacca, who have ordered the whipping of the boys, are dunces, unworthy to sit

DAINIKBARTA,
Oct. 31st, 1893.

on the bench of a Judge. The boys applied for copies of the papers with a view to appeal. They were told they could not get them, as those papers were not there. It was evidently meant that the period for appeal might expire.

MEDINI,
Nov. 1st, 1883.

16. The *Medini*, of the 1st November, complains of the partiality of the Lieutenant-Governor to his countrymen. He gives so much indulgence to Englishmen that natives will in a short time find it difficult to live in their own country. Baboo Dinanath Banerjee of Cuttack made about 11 months ago a representation against Mr. Wright, the Subordinate Judge of Cuttack, to the Lieutenant-Governor. But he has yet received no reply. He at last sent a telegram to His Honour with reply prepaid. The Secretary to the Bengal Government has returned the money. But no reply has been vouchsafed. Perhaps Mr. Thompson is testing the loyalty of the natives by giving undue indulgence to white men whose deeds are dark.

MEDINI.

17. The same paper has received several letters, some in favour and some against the Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal. The writer requests the Magistrate of the district, if he is unwilling to make an enquiry, to remove the Deputy Magistrate to the sudder station of Midnapore.

SHAKTI,
Nov. 1st, 1883.

18. The *Shakti*, of the 1st November, approves of the arguments adduced by the *Indian Nation* for the establishment of an agricultural department for Bengal. The highest officer of this department must be a European, otherwise the Magistrates and Commissioners will not respect his authority. But to make the department really useful he must have well-educated native assistants, in order that he may be thoroughly conversant with native plans and native ways of doing things. Baboo Trailokya Nath Mookerjee is certainly an able officer in this respect. He has attained a very high position under the India Government. It is not certain whether his transfer under the Bengal Government will any way better his prospects. For the last few months he has been in charge of the Exhibition Branch. If the Bengal Agricultural Department can secure the services of Baboo Trailokhya Nath it will certainly be able to do much good to the country.

SHAKTI.

19. The same paper complains that any improvement of the country is impossible without a general spread of mass education. Sir George Campbell did something in this direction by establishing pathsalas in every village. But they proved failures, because the pay of the teachers was fixed at Rs. 3 to Rs. 4. But the pay has now been reduced to Re. 1 only. The success may well be imagined.

SHAKTI.

20. The same paper says that famines are not new in India. India is the playground of famine. Driven away from the civilized world, it has found a secure refuge in India. No place is more suited to be the abode of famine than India. The people have no enterprize, no perseverance. Every marriage increases population. Agricultural and manufacturing industries are at a standstill. Science is not cultivated, and the tenants have no rights in the land. In such a place as this famine cannot but build a strong fortification.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Nov. 2nd, 1883.

21. A correspondent of the *Education Gazette*, of the 2nd November, contradicts the assertions of the *Medini* against Moulvie Buzlul Kurim, the Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal, and attributes these to the machinations of bad zemindars, whom he keeps down with a high hand, and who are therefore naturally desirous of getting him transferred. The Deputy

Magistrate has been charged with violating the chastity of women. If so, is there none who can come forward to prove the charge? Why take shelter under anonymous letters? The writer seems to be surprised to find Pandit Isvara Chandra Vidyasagar cited as a witness. Vidyasagar has never been to the sub-division for the last twelve years. The writer warns the *Medini* not to publish such calumnies without ascertaining the real truth of them. The *Medini* should not expect, says he, to increase the number of its subscribers by abusing inoffensive men.

22. A correspondent of the *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 3rd November, The District Superintendent of Police, Rungpur. complains that the District Superintendent of Police, Rungpur, has recently issued a circular directing that in all cases of unnatural deaths by drowning, snake-bite, and so on, the dead bodies should be sent up to the Civil Surgeon for *post-mortem* examination. Formerly suspicious cases only were sent up. The new arrangement is felt as a great hardship by the people, who have often to carry dead bodies from 50 to 55 miles on their own shoulders at a cost of Rs. 25 to Rs. 30, and that at a time when they are all greatly grieved on account of the recent bereavement. It often happens that poor ploughmen, among whom such accidents are frequent, have to leave their work for days together.

SULABHA SAMACHAR
Nov. 3rd, 1893.

23. The *Uchit Baktá*, of the 3rd November, mentions the following as the causes of the increase of epidemic diseases in this country:—*First*, burial of dead bodies in such a hot country as India; *second*, destruction of trees and jungle that purified the air; *third*, change in the mode of life, especially as to the time of eating; *fourth*, dissemination of diseases by railway communication; *fifth*, anxiety caused by the struggle for existence; and *sixth*, contamination of drinking water. The writer asks Government to appoint a Commission to enquire into the subject.

UCHIT BAKTA,
Nov. 3rd, 1893.

24. The *Bangabasi*, of the 3rd November, asserts that, though the distillers in the outstill system are bound to keep accounts, they are so ignorant that they cannot keep them properly. In fact, double the amount shown in the distiller's books is consumed in the country. The labourers and agriculturists of the country are becoming drunkards. The spirit produced in these stills has become a part of the necessities of life among the people. There is no other means of speedily bringing the country to ruin. Still the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the increase of drunkenness is owing to the greater prosperity of the people. That is, they have become luxurious, and so they drink more. But the writer says that it is not demand that has increased the supply, but the supply that has increased the demand, just as the demand of ice has increased owing to the increased supply in Calcutta.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 3rd, 1893.

25. The same paper says that the country cannot prosper as long as the Rajahs and Maharajahs do not become more intelligent. They are an eyesore to the Europeans, who talk sweetly with them only to gain their own ends. The Maharajah of Hutwa gave a dinner to the Europeans. Mr. Boskin, the Maharajah's manager, was in charge of the entertainment. The hall resounded with songs in honour of Mr. Thompson. One of the party asked why was not Lord Ripon honoured. All voices exclaimed that the effigy of Lord Ripon, the promoter of the Ilbert Bill, was being burnt in the stable. Blood boils when it is remembered that these men were feasting and revelling at the expense of an innocent native Rajah. The Maharajah would never have granted money for the entertainment had he known it would be spent for such a devilish purpose. All India is insulted by the insult offered to Lord Ripon.

BANGABASI.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

26. The same paper says, whatever the officials may say, it is a fact that the cultivators of India are rapidly going to ruin. The writer quotes from the writings of Mr. Osborn and of Mr. O'Donnel to prove it. The soil of India is becoming dry and sterile. Its fertility is diminishing day by day. Indian cultivators are not ignorant of the reason why the soil loses its fertility. But what can the poor man do? Formerly there were jungle and pasture lands on all sides, there was no want of fuel, and no lack of manures. But the case is entirely different at the present day. Manure has become extremely scarce. Fields are either not manured at all, or but scantily manured; but still the cultivation on the soil is repeated year after year. When the land becomes extremely unculturable, the state of the cultivator will become miserable indeed. How will the Government derive its revenue then? The wailings of the people will burst the vault of heaven. Not only does the writer hold this opinion, but it is held by Mr. Hume, late of the Agricultural Department.

The Indian cultivator.

BANGABASI.

27. The same paper remarks that famine threatens Bengal. There is no moisture in the soil, no cloud in the sky, the crops are withering. The land resounds with the wailing of the cultivator. It is not known what lies buried in the womb of futurity.

The apprehension of a famine.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

28. The *Sanjivani*, of the 3rd November, writes as follows:—"The estimated expenditure for the installation of the Rajah of Cooch Behar is two lakhs of rupees. Seventy thousand of this sum will be spent for the entertainment of the Europeans. The Rajah is so well educated that he spent all his time in dancing at Simla and at Darjeeling. He is very well versed in that sort of occidental knowledge. When shall the native princes become men?"

The Maharajah of Cooch Behar.

SANJIVANI.

29. The same paper says:—"It does not appear clearly what strange shape will the Self-Government Bill assume by the favour of Mr. Thompson, the well-wisher of the Bengalis. The Lieutenant-Governor, after such a length of time, will appoint a Committee to determine a system of Local Self-Government, and Mr. Westmacott, the celebrated Magistrate of Howrah, will be its President. No more—quite enough. It requires no prophet to know what will be the result of a Committee of which Mr. Westmacott is the President."

The Self-Government Bill.

SANJIVANI,

30. The same paper says that the zemindars and tenants of Rungpore, hundreds and hundreds in number, most humbly prayed the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to retain Dr. K. D. Ghosh at Rungpore. Dr. Ghosh was long at at one place; he must be transferred. Mr. Lewis, the brother-in-law of Mr. Thompson, was the Commissioner of Chittagong for eight years, and did much that was good and much that was bad, but Mr. Lewis likes Chittagong and he should not be transferred. Mr. Lewis made a mess of the whole thing in the case of Ashruf Bebee of Dohazari, but he should not be transferred. Such shameless partiality is rare indeed.

Dr. K. D. Ghosh.

SANJIVANI.

31. The same paper remarks that it has been published in the *India Gazette* that the East Indian Railway Volunteers will have to remain at Howrah and the Calcutta Volunteers at Government House for the reception of Lord Ripon on the 1st of December. The volunteers were continually asserting that they would not go to honour Lord Ripon, even if they had to resign. The *Englishman* has given hopes that, if they do not like to honour Lord Ripon, they can very well remain at home. They are not bound to be present at every parade. But this time the bragging spirit of Englishmen will be put to a very severe test.

The volunteers.

32. The same paper writes as follows:—Our hands grow black writing continually of the misconduct of the Lieutenant-Governor, but our misery is ever on the increase. A correspondent of the *Indian Mirror* writes that during his mofussil tour His Honour gave an entertainment to the civilians at Hooghly, but Mr. De was not invited. This offence of Mr. Thompson is unpardonable. It is a clear proof of his bitter hatred of Bengalis. The depth of his narrow understanding is simply unfathomable. Mr. Thompson compels us to speak well of Sir Ashley Eden. At one time Sir Ashley Eden went to Durbhunga. Mr. De was the Assistant Magistrate of the place. The manager of the Maharajah wished to entertain Sir Ashley, but did not invite Mr. De. When Sir Ashley heard this, he told the manager that he would not accept the invitation unless Mr. De formed one of the number; and Mr. Thompson did not invite the same gentleman at his own steamer.

Mr. Thompson and Sir Ashley Eden.

SANJIVANI.
Nov. 3rd, 1883.

33. The same paper, in giving the story of the entertainment given to European gentlemen by the Maharajah of Hutwa, remarks that, though the Magistrate of the district was present there, still they hissed at the name of the ruler of India, and said that his effigy, covered with the Ilbert Bill, was being burnt at the stable. Who ever thought eight months before that such things were possible. Still this strange news has been published in the *Planters Gazette*. Our Rajahs are fools—toys in the hands of Englishmen. How could such a thing happen otherwise? The real fact is, we are worthless and it is therefore that Englishmen can take so much liberty.

Maharajah of Hutwa.

SANJIVANI.

34. The same paper remarks that evil always brings forth good. The hatred of the Anglo-Indians has done only good to India and no evil. Highminded Englishmen, always fond of liberty, have supported the noble policy of Lord Ripon by convening meetings almost in every town.

Public meetings in England.

SANJIVANI.

35. The same paper, in reviewing Mr. Sharp's conduct in connection with the Madaripore case, says the ruler of Bengal is anxious to please Englishmen. Their tongue waters at the name of the ruler of Bengal. He finds no fault with them. He treats his subordinates as an indulgent parent would treat a petulant child. Mr. Sharp first came to note in the late Sankritan case. In that case he first learned that no punishment was ever inflicted for any offence. He was promoted after his first offence to the Magistrateship of Furreedpore. He become more whimsical. He insulted Nawab Mahomet Ali, he beggared the minor sons of Rukmini Kanta Rai by his own foolishness. Still he is the same Magistrate of Furreedpore. He has done a new offence, and he is quite sure of getting a Commissionership.

Mr. Sharp.

SANJIVANI.

36. The *Dhakoprakas*, of the 4th November, remarks that the Anglo-Indians, finding the attitude of Lord Ripon and of the Government at home to be firm in the support of the Ilbert Bill, are now openly preaching rebellion. The tea and indigo-planters are making speeches in public meetings at diverse places full of sedition. Encouraged by the writings of such papers as the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* the planters of Tirhoot, Cachar, Dibrugurh, and Assam have resolved, in case the Bill passes, not to obey the authority of the native Magistrates, to resist these Magistrates by force. The *Englishman* proposes to establish Anglo-Indian ascendancy both here and at home by force of arms. If any native newspaper had done this, surely the Government would never have been indifferent. Either the editor would have been blown off the cannon's mouth or transported. The Provincial Government is so much entangled by its love for his countrymen, both official and non-official, that it cannot see the impropriety of their conduct. It is sure not to raise its voice against such

The Anglo-Indians.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Nov. 4th, 1883.

conduct. The Indian Government should therefore interfere in this matter, and put a stop to it.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Nov. 4th, 1883.

37. The same paper remarks that, though Edens and Thompsons may infer that the country is prosperous from the ready and rapid sale of liquor, every thinking soul is aware that the outstill system is eating into the very vitals of the country.

The outstill system.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

38. The *Samaya*, of the 5th November, remarks that it was in an evil hour that the outstill system was introduced in this country by Sir Ashley Eden,

The outstill system.

and it was in an evil hour that Mr. Thompson was placed at the head of the administration. Nothing is so well calculated to complete the degeneration of a fallen people as this system. The ruler of Bengal has given his opinion on the system. It is the old story once again,—“the prosperity of the country.” The Lieutenant-Governor does not find that the agriculturists are going to ruin, and that the labourers are demoralised. He sees only the prosperity of the country. His Honour says that drunkenness has increased even at those places where the sudder distillery system still prevails. The writer quotes from the speeches of some distinguished English men to show that the English are alone responsible for the increase of drunkenness in this country. He then quotes some old resolutions of Government, one of which runs as follows:—

“Government would very willingly relinquish all revenue from this source could it thereby abate the increasing vice of drunkenness.”

The writer proceeds to observe that the present Government never remembers these things. During the administration of the East India Company there was some regard for morality, which has vanished altogether in Her Majesty's administration.

SAMAYA.

39. The same paper, after giving the facts in connection with the Madaripore case, sums up in the following manner:—From these it seems that Mr.

The law in the mofussil.

Thompson can do without laws and regulations. Baboo Kally Nath was certainly a rebel for venturing to summon Mr. Davis before him. At least the Government of Bengal and its advisers certainly thought him so. Baboo Kally Nath has been forced to leave the sub-division to atone for the sin of doing what was lawful. People have their suspicions in connection with his transfer to the sudder station of Mozufferpore.

SAMAYA.

40. The same paper, after giving a brief summary of the Dacca whipping case, makes the following remarks:—

The Dacca whipping case.

Mr. Ghose has told the Judges that no appeal was made because the law does not provide for appeal in cases of whipping. But Mr. Lloyd should not be allowed to go with impunity. He ought to know that no one can do any illegal act. If he does not get sufficient punishment in the hands of Mr. Thompson, a petition should be laid before the Viceroy or the Parliament for the remedy of these evils.

SAMAYA.

41. The same paper says that the *Indian Mirror* is slightly in the wrong when it says that Mr. B. Dey was not invited

Mr. Thompson and Mr. B. Dey.

at a dinner on the *Rhotas*. He was invited on the *Rhotas*, but not at a tea party either at Mr. Beames' or at Mr. Wyers'. Mr. Beames is responsible for everything that was wrong on the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Hooghly.

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

42. The *Charuvarta*, of the 5th November, remarks that during this period of agitation about the Ilbert Bill

The loyalty of Anglo-Indians.

nowhere is language so full of sedition used against Government as at Silchar. The Anglo-Indians are kindling sparks of rebellion in every part of the country. Who knows that these

will not come together and blaze out into a conflagration. The Government ought to be cautious from the very beginning. The Indian population is quiet and disarmed. The Anglo-Indians who are fully armed should be brought under the operation of the Arms Act. As they are trying to kindle the flames of rebellion, the writer humbly begs to suggest to Government that the Anglo-Indians should be disarmed, otherwise the future of the native population is fraught with danger.

43. The same paper gives a brief summary of an article in the *Englishman* newspaper proposing to establish an Anglo-Indian Empire in India, and

Anglo-Indian Empire.

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

remarks that, separated from England, such an Empire is sure to fall in a few days. India is still very powerful. The magic of prestige will not be able to keep it down when separated from English honesty and English laws. The Editor of the *Englishman* should always bear in mind that India is not kept down by fire-arms and cannon balls, but it yields a willing obedience to the nobleness of English sages and to the grandeur of English character.

44. The *Sambad Prabhakar*, of the 5th November, remarks in the

Health of Bengal.

course of his criticism on the Sanitary Commissioner's report that, though Government

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR
Nov. 5th, 1883.

is doing something towards improving the general health of the people, its efforts are not adequate. Bengal is rapidly growing more and more unhealthy, but the Government is not spending the money nor making the endeavours which it should do for the benefit of the people. The malarious fever is sweeping away lakhs every year. What is the Government doing to check its progress?

45. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 5th November, is sorry to find many superior officers of Government using such

The outstill system.

arguments as the following in favour of the

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

outstill system:—"People cannot do without intoxication; if cheap liquors be not supplied, more will be spent on ganja and opium. Liquors are better than ganja and opium. It is good that people should drink liquors and give up ganja and opium." If these arguments have any force, all the reformers of the world are fools, and all efforts to put down drinking mere folly. When one has been born as a human being, one must drink; and a ruler is to be deemed intelligent and popular in proportion to the cheapness with which he satisfies the natural craving for drink. The writer, after giving extracts from the opinions of Commissioners and Collectors, thus concludes:—Bold and dutiful officers like Mr. Glazier of Pubna have said what they think. But none seem partial to the outstill system at heart. Had there been no desire to increase public revenue, none would have so pleaded for it. Had the Board of Revenue shown no partiality to the outstill system, none would have so pleaded for it. What is strange is, that knowing everything Mr. Thompson should have become partial to the outstill system.

46. The same paper says that the ryots in khas mehals suffer owing to the faults of officers employed there.

The khas mehals.

Government has had to admit this in its last

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

annual resolution. The settlement officers make settlements of lands without paying any heed to what the ryots have to say. They classify lands as they please with a view to increase revenue, without thinking of ulterior consequences. The Lieutenant-Governor has admitted that large arrears accrued in Jellamutha and Majnamutha in Midnapore owing to faults of settlement. His Honour has advised the settlement officers to learn a lesson from the history of these two estates. No settlement can be successful unless the ryots are persuaded to co-operate. The advice is sound, but will

the settlement officers act up to it? Whether in the khas mehals or elsewhere, the amlah oppress more than the zemindar.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

47. The same paper points out that, while in *khas mehals* Government spent $\frac{2}{9}$ ths of the annual income in establishments, in wards' estates one-ninth of the annual income was spent for the same purpose; and that where one rupee was spent in khas mehals for improvements, nearly two rupees was spent in wards' estates for the same purpose. The Lieutenant-Governor and the Board of Revenue think that the condition of the ryots in Government khas mehals and the estates under the management of Government is much better than that of the ryots of other zemindars. This may be true of the condition of the ryots of some few zemindars, but the writer does not believe that the ryots of all zemindars are more unhappy than the ryots of khas mehals and wards' estates.

Government management of wards' estates.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

48. The same paper says that Mr. Lyall, the Inspector-General of Police, wishes to abolish the jury system, because the jurors acquit many prisoners charged with murder. The writer does not consider this a new thing. Many Government officers have expressed a similar wish before. Many now wish to re-model the system of administration, and to recede as far as the rulers have advanced in the path of liberalism. Government should not listen to their advice. Several native jurors, without much education, can do better justice to a native prisoner than a European, however highly educated. Again, when there is difference between the Judge and the jury, the Judge can refer the case to the High Court. In the cases adverted to by Mr. Lyall, the Judges made no such reference. It is to be, therefore, presumed that they agreed with the jurors.

Mr. Lyall and the jury system.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

49. The same paper fears that a famine as terrible as the Behar famine of 1874 may occur in Bengal this year. There are signs of scarcity in the North-Western Provinces. The Calcutta Exhibition is likely to aggravate the state of things. The writer will be glad if Government can take steps for the prevention of famine.

Apprehensions of a famine.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

50. Referring to the proposal to organise an agricultural department for Bengal, the same paper asks the authorities to utilise as an assistant the services of Baboo Trailokya Nath Mookerjee, who has been trained under Messrs. Hunter and Buck, and has gained considerable practical experience of agriculture.

Baboo Trailokya Nath Mookerjee.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

51. Referring to the abolition of the post of Press Commissioner, which Mr. Digby regrets, the same paper observes as follows:—

Supply of information to native newspapers.

We cannot understand whether this change has been a gain or loss to us. Important public communications we did not receive before, and we are not receiving them now. Lord Ripon should so order that Government may send to us important information.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

52. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 5th November, is of opinion that the enactment of the proposed rent law will do injury to zemindars and ryots, and ruin the intermediate tenants. Government has not to think for the zemindars, nor for the ryots except in times of famine or other emergency. All its difficulties arise at present from the intermediate tenants. The tenures which they hold suffice to supply the wants of a considerable number. But the others have not lands sufficient for their maintenance. Hence these men seek service. Formerly they could depend upon Government, zemindars, indigo-planters. But the importance of the zemindars and indigo-planters has been considerably reduced of late years. Hence a larger number of middle

Certain consequences of the proposed rent law.

class men are seeking Government service. On the passing of the proposed rent law many intermediate tenants will not find it possible to maintain their families from the incomes of their lands. Hence there will be an increased demand for Government service. The middle class forms the chief strength of a country; and whatever other rulers may wish, Lord Ripon cannot entertain the idea of destroying this class.

53. Referring to the incidents of the Hutwa dinner, the speeches of the Silchar planters, and certain letters published in the *Englishman*, the same paper

Loyalty.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

observes as follows:—

“On hearing that the Jurisdiction Bill was to be introduced into the Legislative Council, the Anglo-Indians first called a meeting at the Town Hall. Mr. Branson and others in their speeches at this meeting, like low people, poured abuses on natives. Then the Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council. On its introduction the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal spoke against the Bill; and since he delivered this speech Anglo-Indians have begun to indulge in seditious observations.

“Though after the speech of the Lieutenant-Governor they did not directly attack Government, they used abusive language against Lord Ripon and the Prime Minister, Mr. Gladstone. After that, since the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, the Judges of the High Court, and Magistrates, Commissioners, and other officials gave their opinion against the Bill, they have openly begun to indulge in seditious observations against Government. That is to say, before the introduction of the Jurisdiction Bill into the Legislative Council, Anglo-Indians were pouring abuse on the people of this country. But since the Lieutenant-Governor and other European officers gave their opinion against the Bill, the Anglo-Indians have not been satisfied with abusing Lord Ripon and others. They have in a manner become rebellious. Hence Mr. Rivers Thompson is in a manner abetting their rebellion.

“Anglo-Indians first feared whether they would use abusive language against Lord Ripon. But on hearing the speech of the Lieutenant-Governor they were emboldened to pour abuse upon the Governor-General and the Prime Minister. But even then they were not fearless in abusing the Queen's representative and the Prime Minister. They were afraid lest the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal should not approve of their action. But Mr. Rivers Thompson removed this apprehension of theirs. In proportion to the abuse in which Anglo-Indians indulged against Lord Ripon, Mr. Rivers Thompson became friendly to them. Mr. Rivers Thompson amused himself in the company of those tea-planters of Darjeeling, who, in their public speeches, abused Lord Ripon. This indulgence on the part of Mr. Rivers Thompson increased still further the boldness of Anglo-Indians, and they have now begun to indulge openly in seditious reflections. It is not merely the fact that Anglo-Indians are thus indulging in sedition: the people of this country have become alarmed through fear of Anglo-Indian officials and non-officials. We showed in our last issue that a European had readily published the fact of his unjust acquittal in a case by a Joint Magistrate, and that Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Furreedpore, had of his own motion removed a case from the file of a Deputy Magistrate for fear of putting Mr. Davis to trouble, and had acquitted him by acting as his vakeel. The flogging of Dacca school-boys is another proof of this.

“We do not know how Mr. Rivers Thompson is showing friendliness to these rebellious Anglo-Indians. He may not repress rebellious Anglo-Indians, but what a dreadful lesson is the Lieutenant-Governor giving to these Anglo-Indians by encouraging them in their rebellious reflections. This country is ours, and all the Government officers are in a manner supported by us. Hence they are justly bound to do what will promote

our good. But whether English officials have this sort of conscientiousness or not, whether they admit or not that they are supported by us, they should know that they are servants of the British Government, and that their principal duty is to seek the welfare of that Government. But the opponents of the Jurisdiction Bill are trying to do what will be a breach of the Queen's proclamation, *i.e.*, trying to degrade her before men, and to make her an offender before God; and Mr. Rivers Thompson is showing his sympathy for those who have undertaken to do this evil deed. The opponents of the Jurisdiction Bill, in insulting the Queen's representatives, have in a manner insulted her; and Mr. Rivers Thompson has sympathised with them. The opponents of the Jurisdiction Bill are at present openly in rebellion, and Mr. Rivers Thompson's friendship with them is gradually becoming closer. In these days is it the principal sign of loyalty to insult the Queen and to attempt to destroy her Government? The authorities should kindly reply to this question of ours. We are uncivilized and uneducated. We have learned many things from the English nation: should we learn what they are kindly teaching us as loyalty?

"Had Sir Ashley Eden neglected his duty under the evil influence of others, we would not have been so sorry for it. But we still believe that Mr. Rivers Thompson is not a man with bad motives. He has not become the leader of the rebellious Anglo-Indians under the influence of love or interest. The crime of Mr. Rivers Thompson is that he is weak; and the cruel, selfish, and impious Anglo-Indians have seized him by the neck and are leading him on to the evil way. Mr. Rivers Thompson may not accept what we say; we may not be men in the eyes of Anglo-Indian officials of high rank or of great Anglo-Indian merchants. But they are telling Mr. Rivers Thompson to neglect his duty: we are advising him to do his duty. They are telling him to act contrary to the Queen's proclamation: we are telling him to act according to that proclamation. They are telling him to become a rebel: we are telling him to act loyally. Hence, although we are insignificant, the Lieutenant-Governor should hear what we say."

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

54. The same paper asks the volunteers that if they insult the Governor-General, how can the Lieutenant-Governor receive their honours? If the volunteers do not really pay due honour to the Governor-General, they will be counted as mutineers, and how can Mr. Rivers Thompson keep up his connection with mutinous soldiers? In that case, either Mr. Thompson must resign the Lieutenant-Governorship, or must sever his connection with mutinous Europeans.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

55. The same paper notices it as a curious fact that, in proportion as Anglo-Indians are annoying, insulting, and abusing Lord Ripon, Mr. Rivers Thompson is making friendship with them. To pour abuse upon Lord Ripon is the principal duty of the *Englishman*, and in these days the *Englishman* may be in a manner described as the ruler of Bengal. The officials are anxious to do what the *Englishman* suggests in any matter. There was a rumour that there was great friendship between Mr. Thompson and the Editor of the *Englishman*. The writer does not know whether the rumour is true or false; but as soon as a few lines against Surendra Baboo appeared in the *Englishman*, the High Court Judges issued a summons against him. Again, Mr. Sharp, the Magistrate of Furreedpore, on merely reading the *Englishman* removed from the file of the Deputy Magistrate the case against Mr. Davis, and dismissed it.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

56. The same paper says that the tea-planters are becoming very high-handed. If the authorities do not now repress them, they will become encouraged and grow arbitrary; but it is a matter of wonder that the authorities, instead

The spirit of the tea-planters.

of repressing them, are assisting them. The writer then refers to a case in which the Deputy Commissioner punished, on the complaint of a tea-planter, a police inspector who had gone to the Degharry tea garden to conduct certain inquiries.

57. The *Somprakas*, of the 5th November, quotes a Sanskrit verse to the effect that, unless Kings and Ministers act in harmony, there can be no prosperity to a country. But such is the misfortune of India that the chief rulers and their subordinates are often at logger-heads. The Governor-General is sent out by the dominant party in England. But the Lieutenant-Governor is generally chosen in this country. The authorities at home merely sanction his appointment. In the majority of instances grey-headed, crooked-minded men, who are versed in extracting money from the natives, and who are partial to their own countrymen are appointed. The support of the narrow-minded civilians who are subordinate to him strengthen his hands. He becomes more powerful than the Governor-General, and often successfully obstructs his plans of reform. At the present day Lord Ripon is doing everything to help the people of this country, and trying his best to deepen the feeling of loyalty of the people to the British people. On the other hand, the Lieutenant-Governor and the civilians are encouraging Englishmen to combine and thwart the plans of the Governor-General. They are threatening to keep down the native population with brute force. It is a matter of great regret that the Lieutenant-Governor does not fail to join the tea and indigo-planters when they publicly abuse the Governor-General, and when they threaten to assault the native Magistrate if he sits in judgment over them under powers conferred by the Ilbert Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor was present at a meeting of the planters at Darjeeling. He seems to have identified himself with the opposition instead of checking it. The volunteers plainly say that they will not go to receive the Viceroy when he comes to Calcutta. But they have very great regard for Mr. Thompson. Mr. Thompson is also opposed to the Self-Government policy of Lord Ripon, and puts forward frivolous arguments with a view not to introduce it in this country. So the object with which Lord Ripon was sent out to India has every chance of being frustrated. Will the Government in England enquire why it is so frustrated?

SOM PRAKASH,
Nov. 5th, 1883.

58. The same paper says the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has issued a circular to the Commissioners of divisions with a view to ascertain the state of crops in different districts. The writer is glad that the Lieutenant-Governor has taken timely notice of the alarming state of things in Bengal. The Orissa famine has proved conclusively that unless proper precaution be taken beforehand, the progress of famine cannot in the slightest degree be retarded.

SOM PRAKASH.

59. The same paper has a piece of poetry entitled "The lamentation of India," from which we give a few extracts:—The virtuous Lord Ripon is bent on passing the Ilbert Bill. Hence Englishmen are leaving the country with their bag and baggage. Who will then force the cultivator to work in the indigo plantations? Who will restrain them wrongfully in godowns of lime? Who will lead them to the path of progress with the aid of Shymchand? Surely such well-wishers are rare and when these men go away, there will be eternal lamentation. Who will take the unfortunate child of the soil to the beautiful garden of a tea-planter, and exact work from him as from a bullock with a string passing through its nostrils, and with five rupees a

SOM PRAKASH.

month make him as rich as Kuvera? You, white men, take all sorts of troubles and suffer all sorts of privation in the mofussil purely for the benefit of the children of the soil, and it is rank tyranny to make the Bengali try them when they commit any offence. This is intolerable. An old white man, with a deep growl, says :—Could the Bengalis be so conceited? They are poor and black; they shall be trodden under foot. No indulgence is to be shown to them. This Lord Ripon has lost his head. He should be driven away from this country. He thinks by plain speaking to win the favours of the natives of India. It is double-dealing which has increased the power of white men in India. Lord Ripon will destroy the empire for a principle. What does he mean by promise? Promises are to be thrown to the waters of the Bhagirathi. It is brute force that makes an empire strong. If you do not mind the warnings of white men, O, Lord Ripon, you are sure to fall into danger, for the white men, with the aid of the volunteers, will destroy everything. If arms and ammunitions are exhausted, they will fight with trees and stones. Appease the white men by all means. As long as they are in the mofussil, you have no chance of success.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Nov. 6th, 1882.

60. The *Prajābandhu*, of the 6th November, recommends that if a representative of the ryot is to be taken as a member of the Imperial Legislative Council, Baboo Akshai Chandra Sirkar, the editor of the *Sadharani*, be selected for the appointment. He has never ceased to advocate the cause of the ryot. He is really a friend of the ryot.

PRAJA BANDHU.

61. The same paper remarks that the High Court and the Privy Council, as a rule, support the judgments of native Munsifs and native Subordinate Judges against those of European Judges. But still Mr. Thompson doubts their ability as judicial officers. Mr. Thompson has taken the part of the tea and indigo-planters of Assam and Bengal, and so, if he can prove the incapacity of the native judicial officers, he can stoutly approve the Ilbert Bill. But he has no evidence to stand upon, and still he persists in affirming their incapacity. The reason of this appears to the writer to be simply this :—He was a District Judge for a pretty long time. He often had the mortification of finding Munsif's judgments supported and his reversed. He was burning for revenge, and now is the time for avenging himself on the native judicial officers, and venting his spleen on them. It is plain enough that if bigotted Christians like Mr. Thompson become the rulers of Bengal, they will be able to conduct the business of the administration without the slightest regard for justice. If a European Sub-Divisional Officer goes on short leave, the Senior Deputy Magistrate generally takes charge of the sub-division. But an Eurasian Sub-Deputy of the lower grade was put in charge of the Serampur sub-division, and the claims of the Senior Deputy, who had so often done the same work, set aside. Mr. R. C. Datta was gazetted to Dacca, but the very next day he was transferred to Backergunge, only because Mr. R. C. Datta is a Bengali and there are many European gentlemen at Dacca. This is Christian brotherhood indeed! Mr. Thompson is full of the race prejudice, and so he thinks that native Magistrates will have race feeling. Mr. Thompson is reputed to be a good Christian. But no Christian virtue is yet seen in him.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 6th, 1883.

62. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 6th November, says that some of the petty zemindars near Kutwa are making a large profit by heavily fining their ryots when they quarrel amongst each other. They indirectly instruct their *gomastas* or rent collectors and other officers to oppress the ryots. A *gomasta* is paid Rs. 2

a month. He has to support 10 to 12 souls. What can he do but oppress the ryot. These zemindars threaten that they will be more oppressive in case the Bengal Tenancy Bill passes into law. The writer says it is a matter of great pity that the people yet do not think for their own countrymen. Others think of us, but we do not think for ourselves.

Inconveniences of a railway journey.

63. The same paper notices the following inconveniences connected with journey by the

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 6th, 1883.

East Indian Railway :—

- (1.)—Intermediate carriages are rare.
- (2.)—These are generally filled up with low class men.
- (3.)—Passengers by the intermediate class have no waiting room, even at Howrah. When people pay half as much more they have a right to demand half as much more convenience.
- (4.)—Hindu water-suppliers are not provided in all stations.
- (5.)—The driver gives such jerks at the time of arrivals and departures that many people tumble down.
- (6.)—At Bali the Eurasians take tickets, bringing their bodies in close contact with respectable native ladies.
- (7.)—Separate female carriages are not provided.
- (8.)—There is no provision for drinking water at the station of Howrah.

The writer promises more in future.

REPORT ON NEWSPAPERS OF ORISSA.

Nilgiri affairs.

64. The *Utkaldipika*, of the 27th October 1883, writes the following on Nilgiri affairs :—

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Oct. 27th, 1883.

We have already informed the public of the orders of Government passed on the Rajah of Nilgiri and his Dewan, Baboo Bhola Nath Das. The orders, while we first heard of them, seemed to us very hard. Subsequently the matter was agitated in some of the Calcutta English papers, a careful perusal of which has lessened our esteem for the judgment of Government. Not knowing all the particulars in connection with the matter, we are unable to ascertain the arguments that led Government to pass the said orders, but from what has been published in connection with the case, we are convinced, without doubt, that the Rajah and his Dewan have had no fair justice dealt out to them.

The Bengal Government, in their resolution on the annual report on the administration of Tributary States of Orissa, admitted that "the state of affairs in Nilgiri was far from satisfactory. The Rajah was an unscrupulous and exacting landlord, and hence complaints of oppression were by no means of rare occurrence. The services of Baboo Bhola Nath Das, a Sub-Inspector of Schools, have recently been lent to the Rajah. His services as Dewan will, it may be hoped, tend to the establishment of a more effective administration, and of a more cordial relationship between the Rajah and his people." That the hopes of Government have not proved groundless will be evident from the application of the Rajah, dated the 20th September 1883, in which he writes that the subjects of Kurpur mehal in Nilgiri turned out rebellious and troublesome, but he sent the Dewan to the place, who brought them under rule and quelled the spirit of rebellion within a very short time. It must be acknowledged that the Dewan had shown great presence of mind, courage, and good judgment in the emergency.

From all this it clearly appears that the Dewan, Bhola Nath Baboo, is a very able man in the performance of administrative duties. Had the Rajah no enemies at home, all business would have proceeded smoothly, but the Rajah adopted a son of the Mayurbhunj Maharajah, and thereby fell in bad terms with his own brother, which became the subject of a big case

before the Superintendent of Tributary Mehals some months ago. The Nilgiri Rajah brought the adopted son to his own house, after the death of the Mayurbhunj Maharajah and his wife. This kindled the animosity and jealousy of the Rajah's brother, his nephew, and his bastard son. They formed themselves into a band of conspirators, trying to trouble the Rajah, to incite the people residing on the four sides of the Gur to rebellion, and thus inconveniencing the Rajah in various ways. They determined to drive away the Dewan with the chief officials of the Rajah from Nilgiri, and thereby to weaken the Rajah's power and force him to act up to their own dictates. The Rajah, thus made helpless, brought the whole matter to the notice of the Superintendent and asked his assistance. The Officiating Superintendent, Mr. Larminie, proceeded to Balasore, where he inquired into the case in the presence of the ringleaders of the rebellious party. They informed him that they had nothing to say against the Rajah, but the Dewan was their sworn enemy. The Superintendent, on the strength of these statements, recommended the dismissal of the Dewan, which has been sanctioned.

Should the statements contained in the application of the Rajah be true, it is easy to understand that great injustice has been done to the Rajah, as also to his Dewan. Those who know the condition of Gurjat will find that the request of the Rajah was not unreasonable. It is usual for members of Raj families to create disturbances with the object of ascending the throne. While the Government were not prepared to allow the Rajah to quell the disturbance by his own force in his own way, careful enquiry should have been instituted in connection with his statements. Moreover, when it is found that all the subjects of Nilgiri, except those residing near the Gur, which is also the residence of the ringleaders of the rebellious movement, are satisfied with the work of the Rajah and his Dewan, it is clear that the very ringleaders are the real causes of the disturbance. To tell the truth, no inquiry was made into the work of the Dewan, Bhola Nath Baboo, from the time he took charge of Nilgiri duties. It was proper to find out where the Dewan erred, or where lay his incompetency. The Superintendent, instead of doing this, supported the statements of the rebellious party, while the Government, approving of his report, threatened the Rajah with the loss of administrative power unless he governed his people properly, and therewith ordered the dismissal of the Dewan. Is this good judgment? It is impossible for the Rajah to manage his affairs without the aid of an able Dewan, and whosoever goes out as Dewan and tries to do good to the Rajah will be driven out in this way by the rebellious horde. Consequently there is not a particle of doubt that the orders of Government will strengthen the rebellious party and overthrow the Rajah. Had the Government, instead of adopting the line of action that they have done, granted the Rajah's prayer and temporarily banished the rebellious party from Nilgiri, the efficiency and ability of the Rajah and his Dewan would have been proved by subsequent results.

SAMBAD BAHIKA,
Oct. 25th, 1883.

65. The *Sambad Bahika*, of the 25th October 1883, draws the attention of the public in a long article of his to the state of crop and the scarcity of rain, but rejoices in the end at the few plentiful showers that followed after long expectation.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 10th November 1883.